

rejuvenation, establishment of nurseries & tissue culture unit for providing quality planting material, demonstration and training of farmers besides State Govt. plan schemes. In addition, the assistance is also being extended for various purpose in this regard through the following scheme :

- (i) Use of plastic in agriculture
- (ii) Development of bee keeping for improving crop productivity
- (iii) Establishment of Nutritional garden in rural areas
- (iv) Integrated project on Management of post harvest infrastructure of horticultural crops
- (v) Development of marketing of Horticulture produce through participation in soft loan.

[English]

Subsidy on Fertilizer

2185. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which subsidy on Ammonium Chloride Fertilizer will be introduced by the Government to obviate the discrepancies in this regard; and

(b) the steps taken for an expeditious decision on this account?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration.

[Translation]

Liberalisation Policy in Agriculture Sector

2186. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to liberalise the policies in agriculture sector further ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) A Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution prepared by the Government to accelerate and improve the economic viability of agriculture was discussed in a meeting of State Agriculture Ministers held at New Delhi on 19th Feb, 1997

The thrust areas of the draft Resolution are:

- (i) removal of regional and crop imbalances.
- (ii) increase in investment in the agriculture sector;
- (iii) grant of facilities to agriculture as are available for industry without the regulatory and tax collection mechanise of the industrial sector;
- (iv) Making available inputs at reasonable rates to the farmers in the proximity of their fields;
- (v) easy availability of credit at reasonable rates of interest to the farmers ;
- (vi) human resource development ;
- (vii) focus on agricultural research ; and
- (viii) relaxation of controls in agriculture sector.

The draft Resolution is under finalisation keeping in view the suggestions made in the conference.

[English]

Drug Price Control Order

2187. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to put monopoly drugs under the Drug (Price) Control Order, 1995 while reducing the earlier list;

(b) whether the Government have identified such monopoly drugs for bringing them under the control order, 1995;

(c) if so, the details there of and the action taken by the Government for bringing these drugs under the control order; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The criteria for keeping the drugs under price control, as laid down in the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986', include in the First Schedule of DPCO '95 has been done accordingly. The list of drugs kept under price control on account of monopoly situation is given in the attached Statement.